

DISSEMINATION AND DATABASES

ELECTRONIC DISSEMINATION

The full range of the Division of Science Resources Studies' (SRS) most recent publications is available from its site on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/srs/stats.htm>

Links from this page take you to electronic versions of publications containing our most current data and analyses, online databases, and supporting methodology for the surveys used to collect and compile the tabulated data.

Most publications are available in hypertext and .pdf formats. The hypertext format is preferable for direct, online viewing and for taking advantage of the navigational flexibility available in your web browser while the .pdf format will provide a near-exact copy of the original, printed publication for easier offline reading.

On the SRS web site, you will also find a search page offering three automated search mechanisms: search by publication title, search by survey name, and search by key word. All searches are limited to the information on the SRS web site.

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NSF encourages electronic dissemination of its documents. NSF's Online Document System includes all publications and forms available in electronic formats. The Online Document System allows users to search by document type, by NSF publication or form number, or by key word. Users can search the Online Document System at <http://www.nsf.gov> and click on "Documents" in the toolbar. Users can browse a list of current NSF documents at <http://www.nsf.gov/pubsys/index.htm>.

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PAPER DISSEMINATION

Paper copies of NSF reports can be obtained in three ways.

- 1) Go to <http://www.nsf.gov/home/orderpub.htm> and fill out the request form.
- 2) Send an e-mail to paperpubs@nsf.gov. Include the title of the publication, the NSF number, and your complete mailing address.
- 3) Telephone the NSF Publications Clearinghouse at 301-947-2722.

Also note that all publications are sent via 4th class mail and should take three to four weeks to arrive.

ELECTRONIC DATABASES

Computer-Aided Science Policy Analysis and Research (CASPAR)

The CASPAR database system is an easy-to-use tool for retrieval and analysis of statistical data on academic resources. CASPAR contains an extensive and growing data library with multiyear statistics on the state of higher education in general and on academic science and engineering resources specifically. This data library is based on a set of standardized institutional and discipline definitions across the multiple sources in the database. CASPAR data are drawn from a number of sources including data from surveys of universities and colleges conducted by SRS, by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) through its HEGIS and IPEDS data systems, and from the National Research Council (NRC) Doctorate Records File and summary data derived from the continuing NRC Survey of Earned Doctorates.

The CASPAR system is self-adapting. It can accommodate itself to whatever data are stored on the specific computer on which it is running. If only a few of the data files are present on the system, i.e., R&D Expenditures and Faculty Salaries, Tenure, and Fringe Benefits, CASPAR will list only those files on the menus shown. If additional files are added, CASPAR will incorporate those files into its menu lists.

CASPAR data are typically summarized by year. The user can, however, total data over a number of years or compute an average.

Financial data in the system are kept in actual dollars. If the user desires, these data can be converted automatically into current year constant dollars by using either the GNP implicit price deflators provided in the system or the user's own deflators.

CASPAR allows the user to define special groups of institutions, academic disciplines, or other categories. A number of such institutional groups are provided in the system including historically black institutions, feeder institutions, etc. Additional groups, such as land-grant institutions, AAU institutions, or a user's particular peer group can easily be added by the user.

CASPAR can display any requested data on the screen in tabular or simple graphic form or it can generate printed reports. CASPAR can produce Lotus 1-2-3 spreadsheets with the selected data in any desired format.

CASPAR is available to the public on CD-ROM and is now available over the Internet using anonymous FTP.

The price for the CD-ROM and user's guide is \$350.00 and may be purchased at the following address:

Quantum Research Corporation
ATTN: CASPAR
7315 Wisconsin Avenue, 631W
Bethesda, MD 20814

Quantum Research Corporation also maintains the CASPAR program and data files on its FTP server (ftp.qrc.com) in the PUB/CASPAR directory.

To run CASPAR, you need an IBM or compatible computer with an Intel 80486, 80386 or 80286 microprocessor; 640K bytes of RAM; 1 megabyte of extra memory (XMS/EMS); at least a 30-megabyte hard disk (the complete system is approximately 225 megs and growing); a CD-ROM drive with Microsoft Extensions dated 4/89 or later, and a DOS 3.3 or later operating system.

Scientist and Engineers Statistical Data System (SESTAT system)

The SESTAT system is an integrated database of survey data representing the demographic and employment characteristics of scientists and engineers in the United States. SESTAT contains data from three surveys, each focused on different aspects of the population of scientists and engineers. The surveys are listed below:

National Survey of College Graduates (NSCG),
National Survey of Recent College Graduates
(NSRCG) and,
Survey of Doctorate Recipients (SDR).

The SESTAT system is available in both public use and complete, confidentially-protected versions. The public use version is available for general public access on the World Wide Web (WWW) at the following address:

<http://srsstats.sbe.nsf.gov/>

Questions or comments about the SESTAT system should be addressed to sestat@nsf.gov. Individuals interested in using more detailed data set may inquire about licensing agreements needed to have access to the confidentially-protected databases. Inquires may be addressed to Joanne Carr at email: jcarr@nsf.gov.